



February 2000

Dear Colleague:

The US Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Wastewater Management and Office of Compliance are pleased to announce the release of a final report titled *The US EPA Environmental Management System Pilot Program for Local Government Entities*. The report is the culmination of a two-year pilot project to examine the applicability and benefit of an environmental management system (EMS) on environmental performance, compliance, pollution prevention and stakeholder involvement in local government operations. The Global Environment & Technology Foundation (GETF) provided strategic guidance, training and technical assistance as the nine local government participants developed and implemented an EMS in an operation of their choice.

Data and anecdotal information collected in this project suggests that EMSs are entirely applicable to operations managed by local governments. Participants found their EMSs to be useful tools for managing environmental issues, promoting compliance and pollution prevention approaches, increasing environmental awareness and stewardship, and improving operational efficiency and control. Based on these project results, and the Agency's continuing interest in promoting and encouraging the use of EMSs with local government entities, EPA has decided to conduct a second EMS project for local government entities. This project is currently underway.

For a copy of the final report visit: <http://www.epa.gov/owm/iso2.htm>
<http://es.epa.gov/oeca/ccsmd/>
<http://www.getf.org/muni.htm>

For additional information on the first project or the status of the second project please contact:

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Sincerely,

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